



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending July 23, 2017
Issued July 24, 2017

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Above normal temperatures were accompanied by widely varying rainfall and some severe weather during the week ending July 23, 2017, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Statewide there were **5.4 days suitable for fieldwork**. Activities for the week included hauling grain, applying herbicides and insecticides, cultivating, and haying.

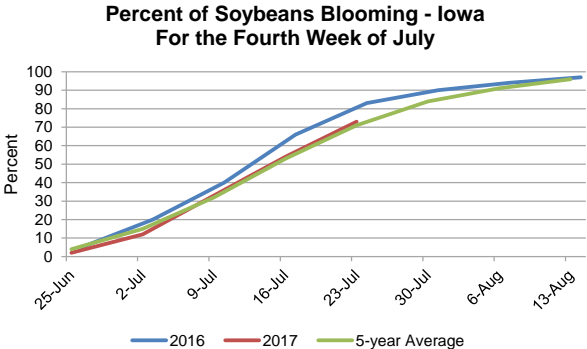
Topsoil moisture levels rated 20 percent very short, 32 percent short, 45 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus. Over 90 percent of south central Iowa’s topsoil falls into the short to very short moisture level categories, while 99 percent of northeast Iowa’s topsoil falls into the adequate to surplus categories. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 14 percent very short, 32 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Seventy-four percent of Iowa’s **corn** crop has reached the silking stage, 4 days behind last year but 2 days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn conditions deteriorated slightly to 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Nearly three-quarters of the **soybean** crop was blooming, with 30 percent of soybeans setting pods, 1 day ahead of average. Soybean condition also dropped slightly with 62 percent rated good to excellent. **Oats** coloring reached 89 percent, one week behind last year. Forty-one percent of oats for grain or seed have been harvested, 4 days behind last year. Oat condition rated 71 percent good to excellent. Crops were described as suffering from heat stress and lack of moisture across much of the state.

The second cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 90 percent complete and third cutting reached 8 percent, 5 days behind average. **Hay condition** rated 61 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** continued to decline with just 41 percent good to excellent. High temperatures and humidity were reported to cause normal summer heat stress to livestock, with some reports of heat-related deaths.

Crop Condition as of July 23, 2017

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	2	6	24	55	13
Hay, all	3	7	29	50	11
Oats	1	3	25	59	12
Soybeans	2	8	28	53	9
Pasture and range	11	18	30	35	6



Field Work and Crop Progress as of July 23, 2017

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn silking	80	73	53	80	82	72	80	64	68	74	37	84	69
Hay, alfalfa, second cutting	97	94	90	95	94	90	85	86	89	90	76	86	74
Hay, alfalfa, third cutting	15	10	13	6	10	8	5	4	5	8	2	12	13
Oats coloring	94	92	80	94	93	92	96	97	86	89	79	95	91
Oats harvested.....	63	40	21	56	50	26	67	67	48	41	18	51	49
Soybeans blooming	91	84	59	79	76	67	60	52	56	73	54	81	71
Soybeans setting pods	34	27	23	26	41	31	30	30	18	30	11	41	28

Days Suitable and Soil Moisture Condition as of July 23, 2017

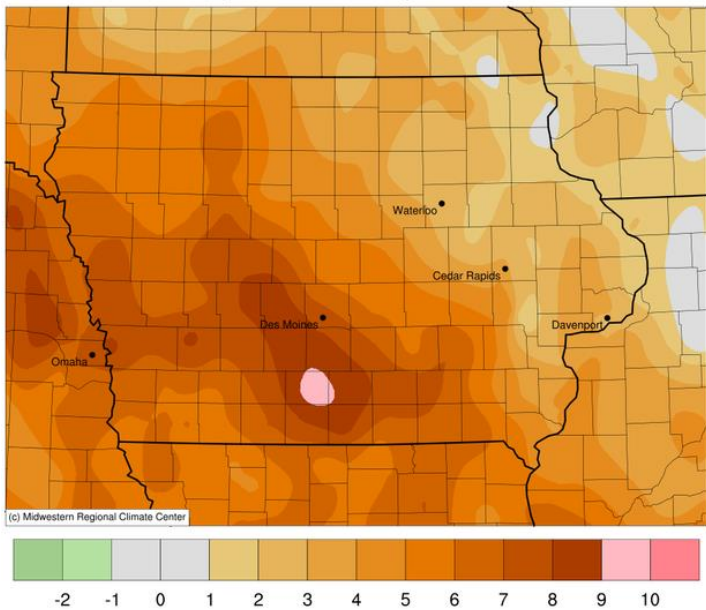
Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	6.4	5.6	3.4	5.7	5.4	4.1	6.2	6.8	6.0	5.4	5.8	4.0
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	43	11	0	25	8	3	8	41	51	20	18	1
Short	38	31	1	42	45	17	32	50	37	32	33	9
Adequate	19	56	90	33	45	63	60	9	12	45	48	81
Surplus	0	2	9	0	2	17	0	0	0	3	1	9
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	29	6	0	12	6	6	6	34	41	14	13	2
Short	42	28	2	44	48	14	24	52	34	32	29	10
Adequate	29	64	92	44	44	69	70	14	25	52	57	82
Surplus	0	2	6	0	2	11	0	0	0	2	1	6

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

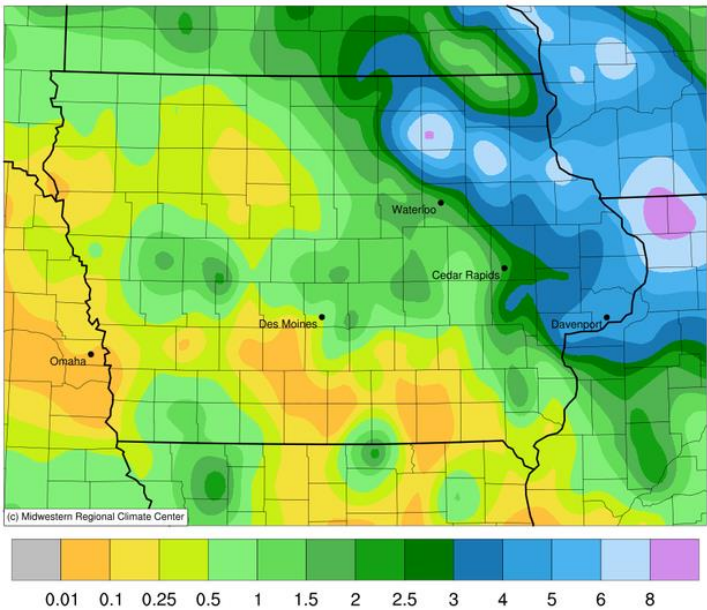
Provided by Harry J. Hillaker, State Climatologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

It was a hot and humid week across Iowa with exceptionally variable rainfall. Major flooding occurred over parts of northeast Iowa where torrential rains fell Friday and Friday night (21st) while parts of the moderate drought area in south central Iowa received no rain at all. For the most part the heavier rains fell in what were already the wetter portions of the state. However, portions of the moderate drought area, roughly along U.S. Highway 30 from Crawford to Tama counties, saw some significant rain on Thursday (20th) night. Weekly rain totals varied from none at Murray, Osceola, Chariton and Allerton to 10.12 inches at Ionia in Chickasaw County. Rain totals thus far in July vary from only 0.16 inches at Sioux Rapids and Cherokee to 13.88 inches at Guttenberg. The Guttenberg July total is the highest for any month at that location among 86 years of record while the Cherokee and Sioux Rapids totals would be new record lows for July if no more rain were to fall before the end of the month. Some of the rain was accompanied by severe weather with the most damaging storms occurring across 15 north central and northeast counties, roughly north of an Estherville to Dubuque line, on Tuesday afternoon and evening with widespread high winds of 50 to 70 mph and a few tornadoes. Meanwhile hot weather prevailed with the temperature reaching 95 degrees somewhere in the state each day of the reporting week. The hottest weather was concentrated across southern Iowa with temperatures for the week averaging from two to three degrees above normal across the northeast one-third of the state and five to nine degrees above normal across the southwest. Highest temperatures were 101 degree readings at Ottumwa on Thursday (20th) and Des Moines on Friday (21st). These were the highest temperatures recorded in Iowa since September 9, 2013. The combination of heat and humidity produced a heat index (how hot the air ‘feels’) of 117 degrees at Clarinda on Thursday and at Harlan on Friday. Temperatures moderated over the weekend with Sheldon recording a morning low of 52 degrees on Sunday (24th). The statewide average temperature was 5.3 degrees above normal while rain averaged 1.42 inches compared to a normal of 0.99 inches for the week.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals
July 17, 2017 to July 23, 2017



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
July 17, 2017 to July 23, 2017



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>